

Message Text

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ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSC-01 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 /021 W
-----210606Z 107063 /10

R 201700Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

SECSTATE WASHDC 7685

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 7112

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR, GW

SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON FRG AMBASSADOR ULRICH SAHM

REF: ANKARA 3845

1. AMBASSADOR SAHM WAS FRG AMBASSADOR HERE FOR MORE THAN FIVE YEARS. IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO COMING TO MOSCOW, HE WAS THE DIRECTOR OF DEPARTMENT II IN THE FEDERAL CHANCELLERY, A DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBLE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, EAST GERMANY AND BERLIN, DEFENSE AND CIVIL DEFENSE. PREVIOUS ASSIGNMENTS INCLUDE DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS IN THE FRG FOREIGN OFFICE, DEPUTY FRG REPRESENTATIVE TO NATO, THE NATO DESK AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE AND SIX YEARS WITH THE WEU IN LONDON.

2. SAHM WAS BORN IN 1917. HIS FATHER, A DISTINGUISHED GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL, WAS PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE OF DANZIG, LORD MAYOR OF BERLIN, AND MINISTER TO NORWAY. SAHM WAS TRAINED AS A LAWYER AND IMPRISONED ON SUSPICION OF INVOLVEMENT IN THE JULY 20 PLOT AGAINST HITLER. HE IS A LARGE, HEAVILY-BUILT MAN WHO IS NOT OBVIOUSLY HANDICAPPED IN MOVEMENT ALTHOUGH HE LOST HIS LEFT FOOT AS A YOUTH.

3. WHILE IN MOSCOW, AMBASSADOR SAHM MAINTAINED VERY CONFIDENTIAL

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CLOSE PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL CONTACTS WITH THE AMERICAN EMBASSY. HE IS AN EXPERIENCED AND PERCEPTIVE POLITICAL OBSERVER WHO STRONGLY SUPPORTS A CLOSE U.S.-FRG RELATIONSHIP AND WHO WAS INVARIABLY OPEN, FRANK AND COOPERATIVE IN DEALING WITH US. ALTHOUGH NOT A SOVIET SPECIALIST, AND WITHOUT A KNOWLEDGE OF RUSSIAN, HE DEVELOPED A WIDE CIRCLE OF CONTACTS AMONG SOVIET OFFICIALS AND WAS AN

EFFECTIVE AND HIGHLY RESPECTED REPRESENTATIVE OF HIS GOVERNMENT
HERE. HE SHOULD BE A CONGENIAL AND PROFESSIONALLY
REWARDING COLLEAGUE IN ANKARA.

4. SAHM SPEAKS FLUENT ENGLISH AND SOME FRENCH. HE IS
MARRIED, AND HAS TWO YOUNG ADOPTED SONS. HE AND HIS WIFE--
WHO ALSO SPEAKS FLUENT ENGLISH--ENTERTAINED GRACIOUSLY AND
OFTEN, BUT MRS. SAHM SOMETIMES EXPRESSED PRIVATE CONCERN
THAT HER OFFICIAL DUTIES IMPINGED UPON HER ABILITY TO
DEVOTE PROPER ATTENTION TO HER FAMILY. MATLOCK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Office: ACTION INR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ANKARA 3845
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2437316
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON FRG AMBASSADOR ULRICH SAHM
TAGS: PINR, GE, US, (SAHM, ULRICH)
To: ANKARA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1821408f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009